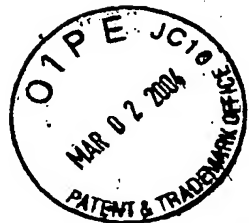


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PATENT  
10/028,576

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re Application of: Mohammed N. Islam, et al.  
Serial No.: 10/028,576  
Filing Date: December 20, 2001  
Group Art Unit: 3663  
Examiner: Mark Hellner  
Confirmation No.: 3289  
Title:

OPTICAL AMPLIFICATION USING LAUNCHED  
SIGNAL POWERS SELECTED AS A FUNCTION OF A  
NOISE FIGURE

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Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment  
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*Willie Jiles*

Willie Jiles

Dear Sir:

**Response Pursuant To 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

In response to the Office Action mailed December 2, 2003, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider the rejection of the claims in view of the following amendments and comments.